# DeployMed ResearchLINK: A Public Resource of Deployment-Related Research

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VSO/MSO Meeting

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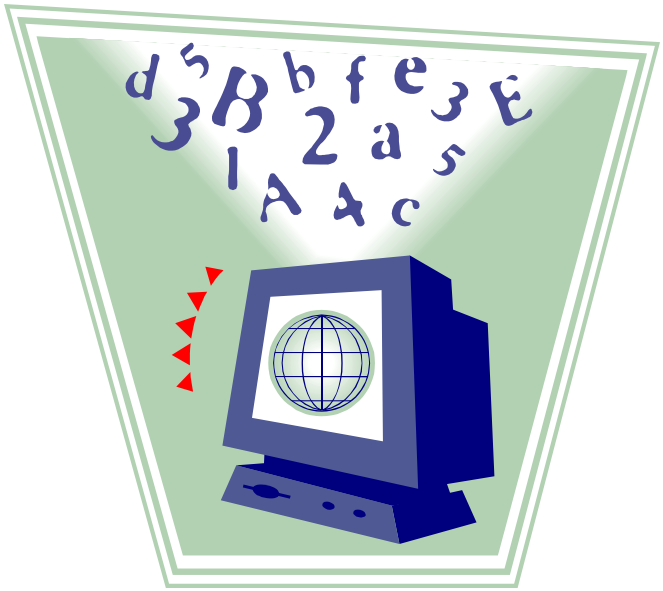
# What is DeployMed ResearchLINK?

- A public website that presents information on “deployment-related research” conducted and supported by federal research programs within DoD, VA, and HHS
- Its purpose is to be a central resource of information on *federally funded* medical research related to deployments from the 1990-91 Gulf War forward



# What is “Deployment-Related Research”?

**Definition:**

- Generally, we consider research "deployment-related" if it meets at least **one** of the following criteria:
  - The research, primarily human research, directly studies Service members and/or veterans who deployed at any time during the interval beginning with the first Gulf War in 1990-1991 to the present

**OR**

  - The research examines health care issues that affect Service members and/or veterans who deployed during that period

**OR**

  - The research examines health care issues (e.g., wound healing or post-surgery complications) that are relevant and informative about deployment during that period.

# How did DeployMed ResearchLINK begin?

- February 28-March 2, 1999: CDC sponsored a conference entitled "The Health Impact of Chemical Exposures During the Gulf War: A Research Planning Conference". This conference was held in response to language introduced by Congressman Bernard Sanders to U.S. House of Representatives Report 105-205.
  - One recommendation in the published report of the conference was: "Centralized Gulf War research library and data repository...that would collect research proposals and results and maintain them in a format that would be easily accessible and searchable electronically.“
  - The Departments of HHS, VA, and Defense, collaborating through the interagency Persian Gulf Veterans Coordinating Board, concurred with, and acted to implement, this recommendation. The CDC provided seed money to establish the virtual library and the DoD agreed to host the planned web site that would contain the library.

- June 18, 2002: Medsearch, the web site of federally-funded scientific research into Gulf War veterans' illnesses, was launched by Deployment Health Support Directorate (DHSD)
- October 3, 2003: DeployMed was launched because focus groups that were consulted on the creation of Medsearch recommended that DHSD also sponsor another, similar web site that addressed scientific research into the health impact of other military deployments that followed the Gulf War
- March 31, 2006: The two websites, Medsearch and DeployMed, were combined into one user-friendly, accessible site called DeployMed ResearchLINK, to streamline information
- March 8, 2007: DeployMed ResearchLINK re-launched under the new organization web site- Force Health Protection and Readiness Programs (FHP&RP)

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# DeployMed ResearchLINK



**Research Organized by Major Deployments**
- Operation Iraqi Freedom
- Operation Enduring Freedom
- Operation Joint Endeavor
- Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm
- View All Operations & Exercises

**Top Medical Research Topics of Interest**
- Accidents & Injuries
- Infections
- Mental Health
- Diseases, Disorders & Other Health Conditions
- Environmental & Occupational Exposures
- View All Research Topics

**Research Organized by Funding Agency**
- Department of Defense (DoD)
- Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- *Funding Opportunities*

**Deployment Research Reports & Publications**
- Deployment Health Reports
- Medical Research Publications

**Other DoD Resources**
- Health Affairs
- Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP)
- Military Operational Medicine Research

## Welcome to DeployMed ResearchLINK

This web site, DeployMed ResearchLINK, was established as part of FHP&R's Health Science and Force Optimization (HS&FO) mission to inform Service members, researchers & health care providers, leaders, and interested others about DoD and other federally funded research on deployment-related health issues. DeployMed ResearchLINK presents information on deployment medical research conducted and supported by federal research programs within DoD, VA, and HHS. The purpose of this web site is to be a central resource of information on federally funded medical research related to deployments from the 1990-91 Gulf War forward.

The contents of DeployMed ResearchLINK will continue to be updated as information on new deployment-related research becomes available. A concise outline of the breadth of information on this web site is provided in the Summary of Research Information section.

**For a brief introduction to DeployMed ResearchLINK, please choose a section below. For those familiar with this web site, proceed with your search utilizing any of the links on this page.**

## In the Spotlight...

**The following are recent publications of interest.**

- Hoge C W, McGurk D , Thomas J L, Cox A L, Engel C C, Castro C A. Mild traumatic brain injury in U.S. Soldiers returning from Iraq. N Engl J Med.2008;358:453-63.

- Hooper T I, Debakey S F, Nagaraj B E, Bellis K S, Smith B , Smith T C, Gackstetter G G. The long-term hospitalization experience following military service in the 1991 Gulf War among veterans remaining on active duty, 1994-2004. BMC Public Health.2008;Epub ahead of print

Internet

# What Information is Available?

- Descriptions of ongoing and completed research projects
- Citations of articles from peer-reviewed journals
  - Link to abstracts on PubMed
  - Link to open-access article
- Government reports

# How to Find What You are Looking For?

- Information may be catalogued by:
  - Region
  - Deployment
  - Medical Research Topic
- But, every project, article, and report is associated with at least one "Medical Research Topic" area- best place to begin

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**Other DoD Resources**
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## Other Research Topics

- Accidents & Injuries
  - Traumatic Brain Injury
  - Spinal Cord Injury
  - Blast Injury
  - Accidents & Other Injuries
- Infections
  - Leishmaniasis
  - Malaria
  - Wounds & Other Types
- Mental Health
  - Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
  - General & Other Mental Conditions
- Diseases, Disorders & Other Health Conditions
  - Bones, Joints & Muscles
  - Cancer
  - Digestive System
  - Endocrine System
  - General Health Status
  - Genitourinary System
  - Heart & Circulatory
  - Immune System & Blood
  - Nervous System
  - Reproductive System
  - Respiratory System
  - Sleep Disorder
  - Unexplained or Multi-Symptom Illnesses
  - Vision & Hearing
- Environmental & Occupational Exposures
  - Chemical & Biological Warfare Agents
  - Depleted Uranium & Other Heavy Metals
  - Interactions
  - Oil Well Fires
  - Pesticides & Repellants
  - Other Exposures
- Epidemiology
- Evaluation
- Family Health
- Genetic Studies
- Mortality
- Treatments
  - Trauma Care
  - Mental Health-Specific
  - Other Health Conditions
- Vaccines & Prevention
  - Vaccines
  - Protective Medications
- Women's Health

If you are unfamiliar with any terms above, please use the Glossary to help you locate definitions.

Internet

# What's New?

- Audience Summary Sections
  - Service members
  - Researchers & Health Care Providers
  - Leaders
- Summary of Research Section
  - Provides a brief summary of the numbers and types of research projects described on DeployMed ResearchLINK

# Have Recommendations, Comments or Feedback?

- We want to hear from you!
- Please contact, Trisha Lamphear, DeployMed ResearchLINK content manager

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  Email: Trisha.Lamphear.ctr@tma.osd.mil
- **URL**: http://fhp.osd.mil/deploymed/

# Questions?